

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

GEORGE P. FHIARAS,

Plaintiff,

V.

STATE OF OHIO,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 1:11 CV 2167

JUDGE PATRICIA A. GAUGHAN

MEMORANDUM OF OPINION
AND ORDER

Introduction

On October 13, 2011, Plaintiff *pro se* George P. Fhiaras, an inmate at the Cuyahoga County Jail, filed this 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action against the State of Ohio. The Complaint alleges Plaintiff was arrested on April 2, 2011. He had an initial appearance on April 5, 2011. A preliminary hearing, scheduled for April 12, 2011, was canceled because Plaintiff was indicted. He did not waive his right to a preliminary hearing, and asserts he was not “allowed to appear and defend in person and with counsel; to review the evidence against him, to demand the nature and cause of the accusations against him, to meet witness face to face, and to have compulsory process to procure the attendance of witnesses on his behalf in violation of due process of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.” (ECF Doc 1). For the reasons stated below, this action is dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915A.

Standard of Review

A district court is expressly required to dismiss any civil action filed by a prisoner seeking

relief from a governmental officer or entity, as soon as possible after docketing, if the court concludes that the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or if the plaintiff seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. §1915A; *Siller v. Dean*, No. 99-5323, 2000 WL 145167 , at *2 (6th Cir. Feb. 1, 2000)

Principles requiring generous construction of *pro se* pleadings are not without limits. *Beaudett v. City of Hampton*, 775 F.2d 1274, 1277 (4th Cir. 1985). A complaint must contain either direct or inferential allegations respecting all the material elements of some viable legal theory to satisfy federal notice pleading requirements. *See Schied v. Fanny Farmer Candy Shops, Inc.*, 859 F.2d 434, 437 (6th Cir. 1988). District courts are not required to conjure up questions never squarely presented to them. *Beaudette*, 775 F.2d at 1278. To do so would "require ...[the courts] to explore exhaustively all potential claims of a *pro se* plaintiff, ... [and] would...transform the district court from its legitimate advisory role to the improper role of an advocate seeking out the strongest arguments and most successful strategies for a party." *Id.*

Discussion

Even liberally construed, the Complaint does not contain allegations reasonably suggesting Plaintiff might have a valid federal claim. The purpose of a preliminary hearing is to determine whether sufficient facts exist to allow the trial court to bind the accused over to the grand jury. *State v. Wigglesworth*, 18 Ohio St.2d 171, 174(1969). There is no constitutional right to a preliminary hearing, however, when an indictment is returned. *Zaffino v. Konteh*, 2006 WIL 2360902 * 4 (N.D. Ohio, Aug. 15, 2006); *State ex rel. Pena v. Konteh*, 2007 WL 2216967 *1 (Ohio App. 6th Dist., Aug. 1, 2007). Further, to the extent Plaintiff seeks to challenge "the very fact or duration of his physical imprisonment, ... his sole federal remedy is a writ of habeas corpus." *Preiser v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 475, 501 (1973)

Conclusion

Accordingly, this action is dismissed under section 1915A. Further, the court certifies, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3), that an appeal from this decision could not be taken in good

faith.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Patricia A. Gaughan
PATRICIA A. GAUGHAN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated: 1/11/12